

Town of Corinth
Board of Selectmen
PO Box 461
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
September 9, 2019

Attending for the Board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley
Catherine Tudish, select board clerk
Others attending: Lee Porter, road commissioner; Joe Blodgett, road foreman; Capt. Scott Cloutre, Orange County Sheriff's Office; Dan Wing, Dick Kelley, Allegra Shumway, Ginny Barlow

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.
Minutes of the select board meeting of August 12, 2019 and the financial meeting of September 3, 2019 were approved.

ATVs/Sheriff Bohnyak

Groschner stated that the town has an ordinance against ATVs on town roads, but residents have complained about the numbers of them on the roads. There have also been complaints about trucks racing up and down the roads at night and driving over the town green in Cookeville.

Capt. Cloutre, representing the Orange County Sheriff's Office, asked which roads were being used by ATVs.

Groschner said they were particularly noted in East Corinth village and Tenney Road in Cookeville. Children had been seen riding without helmets.

Wing showed Cloutre photographs from the roadway where a truck had gone into a ditch at the end of Tenney Road and where skid marks had been left in the road.

Wing said the trucks were more of a problem on weekend nights.

Porter said there were reports of a convoy of ATVs, numbering about two dozen, coming off Magoon Hill Road and going down Maplewood.

Blodgett said ATV riders also drive on private property that is designated for snowmobile trails, raising concerns that the property owners will close the trails.

Porter said, "This has been the worst summer I've ever seen."

Wing said he sees ATV's fueling up at the East Corinth store.

When Cloutre asked if Sheriff Schaeffer has been seen around town, several present said yes.

Cloutre said he would switch Schaeffer to more weekend and night patrols in Corinth.

Cloutre asked if the campground in East Corinth notifies people that there is an ATV ordinance. Select board members said they had no knowledge of whether visitors were advised of the ordinance.

Groschner asked if Cloutre had heard of the possibility of neighboring towns getting together and paying for more sheriff time. Cloutre said no, he hadn't, but he thought it was a good idea.

Groschner raised the possibility of installing gates on Tenney Road. They could not be locked, but they might be a deterrent.

Blodgett said they had tried gates in Newbury, but the gates had been torn down.

Public Concerns

None brought forward.

Road Commissioner's Report/Highway Concerns

Porter said work on the new transfer station is coming along. He asked if the town treasurer had established a separate account for the transfer station.

Long said they will establish a revenue account for the transfer station.

When Porter asked what the select board wants for signage, Groschner said they had not yet discussed it yet.

Besides, entrance and exit signs, Blodgett suggested a sign identifying the station with hours of operation.

Long asked if they would put cones out on Saturday when the station is open.

Porter said they would.

Porter said the Conservation Commission has agreed to pay \$300 toward the trailer, which would leave \$200 to come out of the highway account.

Porter presented three quotes for installing electricity at the site. The select board will review.

Porter recommended installing 200-amp power so that it would be on site for any future use (e.g., trash compactors).

Blodgett said Casella has built the walkways for other towns. The preference would be for two roll-off collection bins with a walkway in between.

Porter said they will evaluate a 2008 Ford 250 with a plow, coming from the Hartford School District. Karen Galayda had told him there was \$2,500 toward the purchase in the listers' budget, which would leave \$2,500 from the highway budget. An expenditure of \$5,000 for purchase of a truck to be used by the listers and the highway crew was approved at the financial meeting of September 3, 2019.

Purchase of the new town dump truck is nearly complete. Blodgett said the board should choose one member to sign the loan. The amount of the loan is just over \$124,000.

Long moved that Groschner be authorized to sign the loan, Cawley seconded, and the motion passed.

Telecommunications grant

Kelley presented information on Act 79, which provides funding for feasibility study grants. Kelley informed the select board that he has submitted an email stating an intention to apply for a grant. The study would assess the capacity for bringing symmetrical broad band service of 25 megabits per second. Grants of \$60,000 are available for feasibility studies for underserved communities.

The goal would be fiber optic service for all residents at a reasonable rate.

Cawley pointed out that EC Fiber is operating nearby.

The broad band group is willing to write the grant application and will present it to the board for review.

Proposals are due October 25, preceded by a question and answer period. Cawley made a motion to approve the application, with the broad band group taking the lead, Long seconded, and the motion passed.

Other Business

The select board will hold a public hearing on October 14 to review the Town Plan and take a vote. Kelley will contact Victoria Littlefield of Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Commission to notify her of the date.

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation requested permission to use town-owned land off South Road as a site for a river study. Long signed the agreement granting permission.

The board approved use of a written form to clarify roadway tree clearing.

Cawley pointed out that the town has the right to cut trees in the right of way.

The form would notify landowners when trees will be cut and ask if the landowner wants the wood.

Fire Station update

Groschner signed the contract with the structural engineer, which had been approved at the financial meeting of September 3.

Facility Manager

Long suggested Will Sandberg as a candidate for the facility manager of the Town Offices. Other board members asked Long to speak with Sandberg about the position.

Long agreed to contact Greg Thurston to ask him for a job description.

Correspondence

The board received an email letter from Todd Mower, regarding tree cutting on Hutchinson Road and Taplin Hill Road. Groschner will send a reply addressing Mower's concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Long and Cawley tested emergency lighting and fire extinguishers in the building.